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found and widespread, liberty increases, democracy fortifies itself, the prospects of peace and prosperity gain ground. But at the same time it behooves nations to be armed for war, for they may be called upon to fight for their independence. The practical politics which this theory of social evolution enforces are: bodily exercise and the accumulation of experiences in the individual life, free trade, and decentralization in the collective existence.

This volume, in spite of interesting suggestions especially as to the nature and conflicts of social groups, belongs to an outgrown phase of social theory. It recalls the days when sociology was emerging from the philosophy-of-history stage. For anthropology, for social origins, for social psychology, even for general theory and methodology to which it professedly belongs this essay has little or no value.

G.E.V.

Social Psychology, An Analytical Reference Syllabus. By GEORGE ELLIOTT HOWARD, PH.D., Head Professor of Political Science and Sociology in the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb., 1910. Pp. 88.

This admirable guide falls into twenty sections distributed under three chapters. The first, "Characteristics of Social Psychology," is a historical survey which follows in general Davis' *Psychological Interpretations of Society*; the second on "Suggestibility and Imitation," and all but the last section of the third, "Opposition or Counter Imitation," are based directly on Ross's *Social Psychology*. The final section, "The Rôle of Great Men," falls into "The 'Great Man' Interpretation of History" and "Potential Genius and Democracy." The chief references here are to James, Baldwin, Carlyle, Galton, Fiske, Pearson, Ward, Thomas. The select bibliography of more than six hundred titles includes practically all the important books and articles in this field. One misses Gumpłowicz' *Der Rassenkampf* which is valuable for the psychology of group rivalry, and Tarde's *L'opinion et la foule*, in which the evolution and rôle of conversation are so suggestively treated. Williams' study *An American Town* is too little known. It deserves a place in any course which aims to cover social selection, the creation of types, and the influence of these in social control.

The analysis of topics, the arrangement of references, and the suggestive questions raised here and there are capitably designed for

their purpose. Professor Howard deserves the gratitude of his colleagues in sociology for this excellent piece of work. He has set an example from which it is to be hoped that "waves of imitation" will spread into other institutions. Instruction in social psychology needs just such attempts at organization.

G.E.V.

Psychological Interpretations of Society. By MICHAEL M. DAVIS, JR., Ph.D. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1909. Pp. 260.

This essay is No. 2 of Vol. XXXIII in the "Columbia University Studies in History, Economics and Public Law." Chap. i to x inclusive constitute the author's doctor's thesis on the theories of Tarde. To these chapters has been prefixed a section on "The Social Mind." Dr. Davis gives a brief historical survey of the psychological interpretation of society, discusses the different meanings of social unity, and analyzes the various ideas which have been associated with the term "Social Mind." The treatment is admirably clear and is to be welcomed as a distinct contribution to methodology.

In chap. xi on "Social Process" and in a third section on "Applications," Dr. Davis has carried out logically some of the principles of social psychology developed in his discussions of Tarde. The treatment of psychology in the interpretation of history is thoroughly sane. It illustrates the value of a theory of process which does not attempt to explain a highly complex situation in terms of any one of many interdependent factors. The chapter on "Public Opinion and Socialization" is a wholesome corrective to the inferences drawn from Le Bon's identification of the crowd with the public. Many will regard the author's assertion that the phenomena of public opinion are becoming more and more rational as somewhat optimistic but on the whole the position is well fortified. The final chapter discusses "Personality and its Social Significance." This is an attempt to reconcile the "great-man" theory and the collectivistic theory into a working hypothesis that will include the truth of both these extreme views. In spite of its somewhat composite character, the essay has essential unity and is to be welcomed heartily by all who are interested in the progress of social psychology.

G.E.V.